

● PRINTER RUSH ●

(PTO ASSISTANCE)

Application : <u>10 789 871</u>	Examiner : <u>R. Schilling</u>	GAU : <u>1752</u>
From: <u>mg</u>	Location: <u>ADC</u> FMF FDC	Date: <u>01.17.06</u>
Tracking #: <u>10 789 871</u> <u>EPM</u>		Week Date: <u>10.24.05</u>

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[RUSH] MESSAGE: _____

— On page 1, line 6:

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Dave

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REV 10/04

POLYMER FOAM SURFACE SMOOTHING MATERIALS AND
METHOD

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

5 Reference is made to commonly assigned, co-pending U.S. Patent
Application Serial Number 10788964 by _____ (Docket 84886⁹) filed
of even date herewith entitled "SURFACE ROUGHNESS FREQUENCY TO
CONTROL PITS ON FOAM CORE IMAGING SUPPORTS", the disclosure of
which is incorporated herein.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

10 The present invention relates to imaging media. In a preferred
form, it relates to foam core imaging supports for photographic, ink jet, thermal,
and electrophotographic media.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 In order for a print imaging support to be widely accepted by the
consumer for imaging applications, it has to meet requirements for preferred basis
weight, caliper, stiffness, smoothness, gloss, whiteness, and opacity. Supports
with properties outside the typical range for 'imaging media' suffer low consumer
acceptance.

20 Traditional photographic prints, as well as ink jet, thermal and all
other reflective imaging methods need to have a smooth surface in order to
provide the image viewer with a visually pleasing surface that provides uniform
gloss and reflective properties. When prints have a high level of roughness, light
will reflect off the surface at different angles in relation to the viewer and therefore
25 present an unappealing image. Such a rough surface may also result in
nonuniform exposure of photographic images and result in images that are not
sharp.

 Another consideration is the opacity of a reflective support.
Adequate opacity prevents the show through of the reflective image below the one
30 being viewed in a stack of images or the non white surface that the reflective
image is resting on or to which the image is mounted. Given the fact that ink jet,